

Claims

[c1] What is claimed is:

A method for conducting online transactions comprising:
combining software with validation data and configuration information such that each instance of said software, validation data, and configuration information can be used to conduct one or more online transactions,
executing said software on a plurality of computers,
exchanging said validation data, and exchanging said configuration information across a network with at least one other computer to validate said transactions,
using said validation data and said configuration information to manage said transactions,
conducting said transactions to access services, and
conducting said transactions to access products.

[c2] A system of claim 1 consisting of client software and validation data that is resident on one or more computers that can be used to transmit digital images, exchange validation data, and exchange configuration information to one or more image collection servers via a

network connection for photo processing by one or more photo processing facilities.

- [c3] A system of claim 2 wherein client software exchanges validation data with one or more image collection servers for the purposes of validating one or more transactions.
- [c4] A system of claim 2 wherein client software exchanges validation data and configuration information with one or more image collection servers for the purposes of identifying the photo processing services and products included in one or more transactions.
- [c5] A system of claim 2 wherein digital images are securely transmitted to one or more image collection servers as part of one or more transactions.
- [c6] A system of claim 2 wherein digital images are transmitted in the clear to one or more image collection servers as part of one or more transactions.
- [c7] A system of claim 2 wherein one or more image collection servers manages one or more transactions for client software using the validation data and configuration information data.
- [c8] A system of claim 2 wherein the validation data is unique for each instance of client software produced and can be

used to validate one or more transactions for photo processing services and products.

[c9] A system of claim 2 wherein the validation data is not unique for each instance of client software produced but may be combined with configuration information and can be used for one or more transactions for photo processing services and products.

[c10] A system of claim 2 wherein the validation data can be provided to the user of the software separately and be used in conjunction with the client software to manage the number or type of transactions available to an instance of client software for photo processing services and products.